

The Daily Courant.

Wednesday, February 16 1704.

London, February 16.

In the Courant of Monday last, was inserted, a Letter from the Ambassador of France to the Canton of Zurich; the following Letter, from the Envoy of Savoy, to the same Canton, is in Answer to that written by the French Ambassador.

Most Illustrious Lords!

I Doubt not but the Letter, written to you the 18th of this Month, by the Marquess de Puisieux, rais'd your Indignation; Turn it which way you will, the Genius of a Minister of France appears quite through it: that Application, that Earnestness to sow Discord and Distrust between Powers who are united together by the most indissoluble Bands; that constant Practice of cajoling one Party with Flatteries and Praises, and hectoring others with big words and Menaces.

There appears in it, that Ingenuity of drawing from every thing such Consequences as are diametrically opposite to what naturally result: The Writer makes no Scruple of telling those with whom he negotiates, that things are quite different from what they have seen with their Eyes; in short, affirms for real Facts, Fictions that have not so much as a Semblance of Truth, and makes them the Foundation of his Defence of a most unjustifiable Conduct.

This you will easily discover, most Illustrious Lords, is you run over Monsieur de Puisieux's Letter with never so little Attention. If he flatters you, if he praises you, 'tis not out of good Will, or any particular Consideration he has for you. Is there a Nation in the World, for whom France has any? 'Tis only to engage you not to enter into those worthy and necessary Resolutions which your dear Allies the Cantons of Bern and Friburg have taken, for the Conservation of Savoy; to persuade you to take no care of the Frontiers that are of so much Importance to them. The French, who know how potent the Laudable Helvetic Body is, and who indeed owe their present Grandeur to the Valour of your Nation, see plainly, that as long as you jointly oppose their Ambitious Designs, 'twill be in vain to attempt to execute them. The Measures your Laudable Canton has taken in concert with those of Bern and Friburg, for the Defence of your Frontiers on the side of Germany, has preserv'd them hitherto. The Marshal de Villars hover'd about them, he survey'd them with desiring Eyes; but finding those 2 potent Cantons were determin'd not to abandon them, he durst not offer to touch them, but was oblig'd to turn his Arms another way. The Conquest of those Places is not of less Importance to France now than it was then; it would put them into a Condition to bridle you, all your Commerce and Correspondence would go through their Hands, they would be able to enter your Dominions whenever they please, to invade them according to their usual Custom, while you rely upon the Perpetual Peace that is between them and you. They want now, as they did then, a free Communication with their Army in Germany; but while the 2 Laudable Cantons that are determin'd to maintain their Frontiers, are united, they will not dare to make any Attempt: They are seeking therefore to divide them. Monsieur de Puisieux endeavours to sow Distrust between them; he flatters you in particular, most Illustrious Lords, he pretends to have an intire Confidence in you, and why? because he would have you abandon the Laudable Cantons of Bern

and Friburg. He would flatter them as much another time, to dispose them to abandon you in their turn, when the French should attack your Frontiers. You will easily judge, he would endeavour then to inspire them with Resentment, by urging, that you would not now concur with them in their Resolutions. The Emissaries of France would be industrious to incense the Canton of Bern in particular, for your abandoning their Frontiers, after the Glorious Resolutions taken last Year by that Canton to joyn with you in maintaining your Frontiers.

Is this Attempt of Monsieur de Puisieux suitable to the high Idea, which the Wisdom and Steadiness of your Laudable Canton ought to have given him? With what Contempt must you needs have receiv'd such a Proposal as that he made you? Now to prevent his offering the like hereafter, you will Answer him, no doubt, by taking Resolutions worthy of your Glory, and suitable to your Interest.

You could not, with less Indignation, see the Menaces Monsieur de Puisieux insinuates throughout his Letter against the Laudable Cantons of Bern and Friburg, who have done nothing but what is conformable to their Alliances with France. The Laudable Helvetic Body has often made solemn Declarations, that those Alliances being purely Defensive, could not deprive you of the Liberty of furnishing Troops to other Potentates, provided they were not to be employ'd against the Countries of which France was possess'd in 1663. The Deputies of all the Laudable Cantons observ'd particularly in the last General Diet, that Savoy being directly included in your Perpetual Peace with France, you had a Right to furnish Troops for preserving it in the Hands of his Royal Highness my Master: And this they declar'd even to Monsieur de Puisieux. The very Motive your Ancestors had to make that Clause in the said Peace, prevail'd with the Laudable Cantons of Bern and Friburg to enter into the Resolutions they have lately taken. Namely, that they may not have so formidable a Prince for their Neighbour, lest from Savoy he should break into Switzerland, which lies open on that side: To conclude, their Resolutions are conformable to that State Maxim which your Illustrious Predecessors counted the principal Foundation and Support of this powerful Republick, viz. the having several Neighbours, and preventing the being surrounded by any single Potentate. But, if Monsieur de Puisieux be to be believ'd, the just Steps taken by your Dear Allies will quickly draw a thousand Calamities upon them, and disturb the Peace and Quiet which Switzerland has so long enjoy'd.

I imagin'd the Junction of the Imperial Troops with the Army of his Royal Highness, (a Blow the French so little expected, and which has spoil'd all their Schemes,) would have withheld their Ministers from daring to continue their Endeavour to work upon you by Fear and Terror. But Arrogance and Presumption are so natural to them, that they too often run into them without reflecting on the Courage and Worth of the Nations to whom they are speaking. Is it for them to treat your Laudable Body in that manner, who have so long maintain'd themselves by their Intrepidity and Valour? Is it not by your Valour the French keep the Low-Countries? The Truth is, were you not so scrupulously Just to the Alliances you have with them, you could easily humble them, especially at this time, when the Ambition, and the Necessity of opposing it, has arm'd all Europe against them. Monsieur

Monsieur de Puisieux would dissuade you from joining in the Resolutions of your dearest Allies, by urging that his King's Troops have seiz'd on all Savoy except Montmeillan, and that they are possess'd of all the Passages and most advantageous Posts; in his Judgment this ought to stop all your Resolutions, but he does not reflect that he thereby puts you in mind of the little regard the French have shewn to you in this Expedition, which they push'd on in Scorn of the Deputies that were with the Commander of their Troops, and who press'd him to suspend Hostilities till the General Diet, call'd chiefly to consider of the Neutrality of Savoy, had taken Measures about it: He reminds you, that this Invasion was made, while the Deputies of the Laudable Helvetick Body, solicited him himself at Baden on the same subject.

You see then, most Illustrious Lords, what Designs France has in view: They condemn your Deputations, your Assemblies, and your Remonstrances; While you are making Representations to them, they possess themselves of Savoy; and this they do that they may have an Opportunity to tell you, the King is actually possess'd of Savoy, and 'tis too late for you to concern your selves about that Province. What other Inference can you draw from this, than that it is to no purpose to treat with a Potentate, who acts with no manner of regard for any Body, and wherever he can get Possession, insultingly demands who will turn me out? 'Tis high time, most Illustrious Lords, 'tis high time to take speedy and vigorous Resolutions, all gentle Expedients serve only to inflame the Ambition of France. The Objection made by Monsieur de Puisieux, ought to be a sufficient Warning to you, how dangerous it is to suffer your selves to be approach'd too closely, and should induce you to omit nothing to keep off a Potentate so greedy of Dominion. If you do not take just Measures for preserving Savoy, in concert with your dear Allies that are interested in it; he will take occasion to say to you of Lindau and your Frontiers towards Germany what he now says of Savoy; concerning which M. de Puisieux is either under a mistake himself, or else would deceive you; for the Passages into it are still in the Hands of his Royal Highness, nay the Guard of them and of that important Place Montmeillan, is entrusted to Troops of your Nation: They expect your Assistance, to drive the French out of that Province, if they do not peaceably quit it as soon as they shall be inform'd of your glorious Resolutions.

You know, most illustrious Lords, and your Deputies that were at the Diet at Baden have told you, it was unanimously agreed there, that the Conservation of Savoy was absolutely necessary for the Security of the laudable Helvetick Body, and that a Neutrality for it ought by all means to be procur'd. The Deputies spoke of it in earnest Terms to the Marquess de Puisieux two several times, without mentioning Piemont: and he promis'd them the second time to write about it to the most Christian King. Yet you see with what Assurance he now dares to say, that you rejected the Demand I made to the same purpose. Judge by this, what Credit you ought to give to what he says to you, seeing he offers to impose upon you in an Affair so publicly transacted among you your selves. After this who will believe upon his bare Affirmation that the Duke my Master was the Aggressor; It cost me no pains to refute in my Memorials all he had said in his on that Subject; he could make no Reply to what I Advanc'd; and yet he repeats his Fictions with as much Assurance, as if they were evident Truths. All he urges to prove the Duke my Master the Aggressor, is of equal Ingenuity with the Wolf's Accusation of the Lamb in the Fable, that he found the Water he was drinking tho' the Stream ran from him to the Lamb. France never boggled at such pretences; nor will scruple to make use of them against you, unless by firm and courageous Resolutions you prevent the Danger that threatens you; unless you joyn with the laudable Cantons of Bern and Friburg, who are so sensible of this Danger; unless, to conclude, you make it the only Foundation of your Security, to hinder France

from acquiring either Power or Opportunity to attack you impunibly. I am, &c.

Berne, Jan. 26. 1704.

P. Mellaredo.

London, Feb. 16. Captain Boucher, who was lately taken up as coming from France, is to be arraign'd to day at East-Greenstead (a special Commission being sent thither for that purpose) in order to his being Try'd there the next Assizes.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this present Wednesday being the 16th of February, will be presented a Comedy call'd, *Love's Contrivance*, or, *Le Medicin Malgre Luy*. To which will be added a short Comedy of 2 Acts only, call'd, *The Comical Rivals*, or, *School-Boy*. With Singing by Mr. Leveridge, and Dancing by Monsieur du Ruel and others. And to-morrow (At the Desire of several Persons of Quality) will be acted the last reviv'd Comedy call'd, *The Squire of Alfaria*.

AT the New Theatre in Little-Lincolns-Inn-Fields, this present Wednesday being the 16th of February, will be presented a Comedy call'd, *The Amorous Widow*, or, *The Wanton Wife*. With several Entertainments of comical Dances. And to-morrow will be presented a Farce call'd, *The Anatomist*, or, *The Sham Doctor*. With the Masque of the Loves of Mars and Venus in 4 Musical Entertainments. At the Desire of several Persons of Quality, For the Benefit of Mr. Boman.

WHEREAS on Sunday last between 4 and 8 a clock in the Evening, a Bank Note of 25 l. payable to Mr. Edmund Clark or Bearear, was lost between Long-Acre and Drury-lane, being wore black by the Pocket, with 2 or 3 holes in it. Whoever brings the said Note to Mr. Tempest in Drury-lane, or Mr. Carey at the Three Black Lyons in Great Russell-street, Goldsmiths, shall have 20 s. Reward, Payment being stop'd at the Bank, so of no use to any but the Owner.

This day is publish'd,

THE History Political and Gallant of the Famous Carridal Portocarrero Archbishop of Toledo. Done out of French. Sold by John Nutt near Stationers-Hall.

DR. READ the Approved Oculist, is to be advis'd withal constantly at his House in Durham-Yard behind the New Exchange in the Strand, the Queen's Arms being over his Door (being removed from the Black-a-moor's-Head in Shandon-street, Covent-Garden) having more conveniencies for the accommodating his Patients. He gives his Advice to the Poor Gratis in all Distempers incident to the Eyes, and hath restored several Hundreds to perfect sight for Charity, that were recommended to him by the Ministers and Church-wardens of several Parishes in the Country as well as in this City since Christmas last, and will freely continue his kindness to the Poor. He hath lately couch'd and brought to perfect sight several that were actually born Blind of Cataracts, and several of Blindness through Obstructions of the Optick Nerves.

A Large Collection of curious Original Paintings, Italian, Dutch and English, Ancient and Modern, viz. Guido, Michael Angelo, Reubens, Vandike, Dobson and other Masters, will be expos'd to Sale by Auction this present Wednesday being the 16th of February, at Three of the clock in the Afternoon, and continue daily till all are sold, In Crown Court in the Old Change near St. Paul's Church.

THE Hypochondriac Digestive POWDER, which (if taken as directed) infallibly cures the deepest Melancholy, and extreamest Vapours ever known, even where the Mind is so confus'd, Spirits and Senses hurried, as to render the Patient craz'd, and almost Distracted; for it rectifies the digestive Faculty, expels the Wind, settles the discompos'd Spirits, rarifies the stagnated Blood and Juices, and dissolves and removes Obstructions which hinder necessary Evacuations, and are the cause of those Distempers. In short, it is the most certain Remedy ever found out, as all that apply to it will happily experience, having perform'd Cures almost to a Miracle, as any may be satisfied of at the Place of Sale, viz. Jacob's Coffee-house against the Angel and Crown Tavern in Threadneedle-street near the Royal Exchange, where (to prevent Counterfeits) 'tis only to be had, Seal'd up with Directions at 3 s. 6 d. the Paper, containing several Doses.